

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/617,000

Applicant(s)

PEARCE, RICHARD A.

Examiner

Christopher Verdier

Art Unit

3745

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 10142003
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Specification:

On page 2, line 22, "and blade iron" has been deleted.

On page 2, line 23, "a" (first occurrence) has been changed to -- the --.

On page 9, line 15, "(41" has been changed to -- (41) --.

In the Claims:

In claim 1, line 1, "and blade iron" has been deleted.

In claim 1, line 3, "a" (first occurrence) has been changed to -- said --.

In claim 1, line 14, -- and -- has been inserted after ",".

In claim 2, line 2, "has" has been changed to -- have --.

In claim 6, line 9, "hole" has been changed to -- holes --.

In claim 6, line 11, -- and -- has been inserted after "then".

In claim 7, line 1, "has" has been changed to -- have --.

In claim 10, line 1, "said" has been changed to -- a --.

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The above changes to the specification have been made to correct informalities therein.

The above changes to the claims have been made to correct obvious errors and informalities therein.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the instant application is directed towards and unobvious improvement over the invention disclosed in U.S. Patent 6,371,729 (Prior Art Figures 7-8). Figures 7-8 thereof disclose a quick connect blade iron comprising a blade 91 with mounting holes 911, 912, with the blade iron having an unnumbered motor mounting portion, and an unnumbered blade mounting portion near 93. Catches 95 and 932 are provided. The improvement comprises a mounting plate coupled to the blade mounting portion, with the mounting plate having a pair of catches sized and shaped to pass through the blade mounting holes and be pivoted relative to the blade mounting portion between an unlocked position allowing the passage of the catches through the mounting holes and a locked position wherein the catches capture the blade, whereby with the mounting plate in it's unlocked position, the blade is mounted to the blade iron by positioning the blade against the blade iron and passing the catches through the mounting holes, and the mounting plate is then rotated to its locked position to lock the blade to the blade iron. Catches 932 of U.S. Patent 6,371,729 are not pivotable, and U.S. Patent 6,371,729 does not disclose a rotating mounting plate. U.S. Patent 6,371,729 also does not disclose a mounting plate coupled to the blade iron that pivots to move the catches into engagement with the blade.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Blateri is cited to show a ceiling fan blade assembly with a clamping member 28.

Bucher is cited to show a quick connect ceiling fan blade assembly with various blade mounting arrangements.

Hodgkins is cited to show a ceiling fan blade system with various adapters.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Verdier whose telephone number is (703)-308-2638. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 10:00-6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward K. Look can be reached on (703) 308-1044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

C.V.
July 19, 2004



Christopher Verdier
Primary Examiner
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